

[1]

Some farther Matter of Fact
Relating to the Administration of Affairs

I N

SCOTLAND,

Under the

Duke of Lauderdale.

*Humbly offered to His MAJESTIES Consideration,
in Obedience to His Royal Commands.*

That the Duke of *Lauderdale* was concerned in the Designe of Bringing in of Popery and Arbitrary Government, may appear by these following Particulars, &c.

I.

First, in *Anno 1669*, when he knew that the Duke had changed his Religion, he procured an Act in *Scotland* for Asserting the Kings Supremacy; which he made the Presbyterian-party believe was to empower the King to put down Episcopacy, and set up Presbytery, (the very words of it.) The disposal of the External Government of the Church, is put absolutely in the Kings Power; as also all Ecclesiastical Meetings and Meeters are to be ordered by the King.

Now the acknowledgment of the Pope is a great part of the Ecclesiastical Government; besides, the other words are so comprehensive, that all Popery may be brought in at that door. Soon after this, he entered into a firm Friendship with the Head of the Popish party.

II.

At his next Session of Parliament, which was after Madam's, being at *Dover*, in 1670, to shew his farther Kindness to that Religion, he put in words in the 7^o Act of that Session, against Withdrawers from publick Worship; which secured Papists from all troubles: for the Act runs onely against his Majesties Subjects of the Reformed Religion; for that Papists are expressly Excepted, and the words he put in with his own hand in the draught of that Act.

III.

Whereas he first procured the Act that was past *Anno 1667*, that offered the King an Army of 22000 men to be brought into *England* for any Cause in which his Majesties

A

jesties Honour, Power, and Greatness was concerned ; which was generally passed as a Complement, and continued so till the year 1669, that other designe being projected in *England* by the Papists.

He to be ready to second that, raised this Army, and procured another Act, which is the second in the first Session of the Parliament held by him ; by which the former Act was not onely confirmed, but it was ordered that this Army should obey the Order of the Council, without naming the King at all : which, as he has managed it, is upon the matter himself. And of late, before the discovery of the Plot, he designed to convert the 22000 men to a standing Army, as an Addition to the new Forces raised last Summer, to be constantly maintained by all Subjects ; contrary to the true meaning of the first or second Acts of Parliament relating to that purpose, and directly against the Fundamental Constitutions of the Nation, to impose Burthens upon it without consent of Parliament.

I V.

When he went down *Anno* 1673, to see if he could draw down this Army to *England* (finding he could not effect it, that Nation not being able to support this Tyranny longer) he first wearied the Members of Parliament with often Adjournments, and finding in the end that Artifice and other tricks would not do, he dissolved the Parliament, that he might proceed there, consonant to the Council he gave here ; and set up a Bare-fac'd Arbitrary Power there, which he has so much advised and pressed here ; and has ever since taken all the ways he could fall on to force the Nation to a Rebellion, by illegal Imprisonments, unjust Accusations, false Reports made to the King, taking away from the Subjects the right of Propriety, their limitable Jurisdictions by the Councils order, grounded upon Letters procured by him from the King, and put in execution by his brother *Halston*, by wrongful turning out Bishops, Ministers of State, Magistrates, and others, by cruel and illegal Sentences, Banishments, and Fines ; some whereof he disposed to Pensioners Relations of his own, by Grants obtained from the King here, which bear date before the Fines were judicially imposed in *Scotland*.

And likewise by bringing a man to die, whom he had perswaded to confess upon hopes of Life ; and afterwards forswore that he had promised, though it stands yet registered upon the Councils Book. By sending Shipfuls to be Slaves in English Plantations, which he justified here at Council-board in *Whitehall*. By imposing Bonds against Law. And above all, by sending an Army of 9 or 10000 men, most of them Highlanders, to lie upon Free quarter, and rob and spoil a Country that was in no Rebellion, nor could any colour of saying they intended any, be ever found now or since. This he did last year, thinking that would certainly make them rebel, and so give a just Cause for keeping up a standing Army both there and here. And that being at the time when the Papists thought the Plot so neer perfection, was certainly in conjunction with them, having prepared above 8000 Horse and Foot, with Officers of his own stamp, to execute his designe. It is more than probable that it was for the Intelligence his Lady gave of this, that the Cardinal of *Norfolk* sent his thanks to her.

V.

Whereas there are but few Papists in *Scotland*, he hath given these all the Encouragements he could. The Earl of *Aboins*, who was oft complained of to the Council by the Bishops for keeping many Priests in his house, and being a main Stickler for Popery, he made a Privy-Counsellor, and gave him a Pension, though he has never since gone to Church, nor received the Sacrament. The Earl of *Northdale*, another furious Papist, in Command of the new Forces he raised (and so is Lord and King) and both those two were last year employed by him in the plundering of the West of *Scotland*, &c. And there being in *Scotland* but five Noblemen that are Papists, four of them have been supported and maintained by him, &c.

VI. He

VI.

He was a principal Instrument in procuring the Toleration of Popery, and courted them into sworn Friendship with the Lord *Clifford*; and preferred the Declaration and other the Kings Edicts at the Council-board, to Law, &c. He pressed the King to break with his Parliament, and maintain the Declaration, and to take the Great Seal from the Earl of *Shafisbury*, for giving him better Council; of which he has often boasted. He became also an Enemy to the Earl of *Arlington*, upon the same account, and has ever since had an intire friendship with the Lord Treasurer, for promoting those ends he supported the last year against the just Complaints the Scotch Lords made for Free Quarter, and other barbarous usages which they met with, &c.

VII.

He became a Pensioner to *France*, from whom he received rich Presents, and great Sums: out of one of the Jewels which Monsieur *Colbert* gave him, he made his rich *George*. He always helped on the French Levies in *Scotland*, against the Treaties the King had made, and gave the French Officers the publick Prisons; yea, and the Kings own Cattle of *Edenburgh*, of which he is Governour, to keep their Leavies in, till the Ships are ready for their Transportation: he gave order to his Brother to set the Levies forward, and to press men by force into their service; which being informed to the House of Commons, he corrupted one of the Witnesses by Money to forswear it; and this he did, after the House of Commons had Voted that any who assisted those Leavies, should be lookt upon as publick Enemies to the Nation. So much did he contribute to serve the French Kings designs; and particularly in the year 1667. when complaints were made to the King by Spanish Ministers, that *Scotland* Leavies for *France* were a breach of Treaty, His Majesties Commissioners ordered a Proclamation to be sent down immediately for the discharging of them; but the Duke of *Lauderdale* dispatcht an Express to his Brother *Halton* secretly, to acquaint him that the Proclamation was coming, and that it should be kept up, until the Leavied Souldiers should be shipt and sent away, and then published; which was accordingly performed. But for all the hast they made to sayl, the wind detained some of their Vessels in the Road after the Proclamation, and did drive others back, which had been a good way gone, yet none durst stop or trouble them, for fear of *Halton*, who had always promoted those Leavies, and had signed particular Warrants to several Prison-keepers, for delivering their Prisons to the French Officers. He lived at that time in such intimacy with the French Embassadour, that they were never asunder. He sent his Nephew to make Campaigne in the French Army, and wrote to the English Embassadour to present him to the King; and tell him, *That he had sent the dearest thing he had to his service, and if he had any thing dearer he would have sent it.*

VIII.

He hath upon all occasions spoken of the House of Commons with the greatest contempt and scorn possible, calling it commonly, *Belua multorum Capitum*; and usually said, if they would Address against him, *he would fart against them, and that he would put a dog in his Arse and bark at them.* And after boasted among his Creatures, *That he had risen by their Addresser.* For after one, he got himself made an Earl of *England*; after the other, he had a Pension of 3000 *l. per annum* in *England*, though he had above 9000 *l. per annum* in *Scotland*, of the King; and his usual word about the Commons is, *Let them bark, and he will bite.*

IX.

Not long ago he carried a person, known to be of a very mercenary quality, before
the

the King, and its like suborned him to accuse some of the Nobility of *Scotland*, and say, *They had inticed him to complain upon his Grace to the Commons in Parliament*; thereby thinking not onely to put those Noblemen out of the Kings favour, but also to beget in His Majesty an ill Opinion of the House; but the parties being convened before the King, His Majesty discovered the Forgery, and Ordered the cheating Rogue to custody, where he yet lyes under restraint.

X.

At his last being in *Scotland*, he forced all the Officers of State, and others, in both Civil and Military Employments, to hold their Commissions of the King *durante beneplacito*, which was never practised in that Nation before; the consequence thereof tends so much to Arbitrary Power, that they need not be particularized; he put in and put out Members of the Kings Council, according as they suited his secret Designs. In a word, he so packt all the Judicatures, that Justice and Equity have been Administred according to his pleasure, under colour of the good of the Kingdom.

XI.

When the Treaty for the Union of both Kingdoms was set on foot, which had been a great happiness to both Nations, perceiving he should thereby loose that absolute Power he had in *Scotland*, and not be able to prosecute his Arbitrary Designs, set himself to a breach; for which, this was his Argument, *That it was rather the Kings Interest to keep the Kingdoms distant, and to hold England under the fear of the Scotch Army, which then he was Raising and Modelling.*

XII.

He has lived in that Correspondence with the Papists and Priests, that the Cardinal of *Norfolk* before he left *England* was perpetually at his House; he has kept constant Correspondence with *Conyers* and some Jesuites; and at *Rome* he was called by one of the Popes Bed-chamber, a great friend of the Catholics; and in all his concerns, the Papists were still of his side. So that his late Proclamation against Papists in *Scotland* hath been onely a Mockery. Now since the Plot is discovered, to disguise his Traiterous Conspiracies, which then, though upon Mr. *Oates* his Discovery he talked at the Board like one that believed it; yet he went strait to the Duke, and spoke of it with all possible scorn, and called it a *Ridiculous Contrivance.*

XIII.

First, That *Colemans* Letters were discharged to be made publick in *Scotland*. And next, his Tryal being Reprinted at *Edenborough*, the Books were by a peremptory Order in Council stopt at the Press, when finished almost to the last sheet, not onely to the Printers great damage, but to a manifest suppression of the Discovery of that horrid Plot from the good people of that Nation, who were longing for the Particulars thereof. For is it not known, that *Charles Milford* of *Hatton* Treasurer, Deputy of *Scotland*, managed all the Affairs and Councils there, exactly as he received Instructions from his Brother the Duke of *Lauderdale* here? according to which, those in that Country, which these Creatures talk now, of the discovered Plot, to be onely a Malicious Forgery of two Rogues, *Oates* and *Bedlom.*

F I N I S.